

**U S Army Corps
of Engineers**
Huntington District

Public Notice

In reply refer to Public Notice No.

200501314

Issuance Date:

November 21, 2005

Stream: **Ohio River & Chickamauga Creek** Closing Date:

December 20, 2005

Please address all comments and inquiries to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District

ATTN: CELRH-OR-F Public Notice No. (*reference above*)

502 Eighth Street

Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070

Phone: (304) 399-5210

PUBLIC NOTICE: The purpose of this public notice is to inform you of a proposal for work in which you might be interested. It is also to solicit your comments and information to better enable us to make a reasonable decision on factors affecting the public interest. We hope you will participate in this process.

REGULATORY PROGRAM: Since its early history, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has played an important role in the development of the nation's water resources. Originally, this involved construction of harbor fortifications and coastal defenses. Later duties included the improvement of waterways to provide avenues of commerce. An important part of our mission today is the protection of the nation's waterways through the administration of the Corps Regulatory Program.

SECTION 404: The Corps is directed by Congress under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344) to regulate the discharge of dredged and fill material into all waters of the United States, including wetlands. The intent of the law is to protect the nation's waters from the indiscriminate discharge of material capable of causing pollution and to restore and maintain their chemical, physical and biological integrity.

SECTION 10: The Corps is directed by Congress under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (33 U.S.C. 401, et seq.) to regulate the construction, excavation, or deposition of material in, over, or under navigable waters or any work which would affect the course, location, condition, or capacity of those waters. The intent of the law is to prevent unauthorized obstruction or alternation of any navigable water of the United States.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. This notice serves as the Corps of Engineers' request to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) to act on Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the following application:

APPLICANT: Gallipolis Boat Club
111 Vine Street
Gallipolis, Ohio 45631

LOCATION: The maintenance dredging activities are located on Chickamauga Creek from its confluence with the Ohio River upstream to the State Route 7 Bridge. The dredge material disposal area is along the right descending bank of the Ohio River at 270.2 in Gallipolis, Gallia County, Ohio.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED WORK: The applicant has requested renewal of their ten-year maintenance dredging permit. The existing maintenance dredging permit, which was issued on January 24, 1995, is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2005.

The applicant proposes to conduct maintenance dredging activities within Chickamauga Creek at the Gallipolis Boat Club. The proposal would include the removal of approximately 30,000 cubic yards of accumulated silt and sediments within the 6.7 acre basin utilizing a hydraulic dredge. The basin and channel would be excavated to maintain an average water depth of five feet. The excavated material would be disposed within the Ohio River at the existing dredged material disposal site (DMDS) located immediately downstream of the mouth of Chickamauga Creek. The DMDS would measure approximately 100' x 800' (1.84 acres). It is anticipated dredging activities would occur once a year. The purpose of the maintenance dredging activities is to maintain adequate water depths within the marina for recreational boating purposes.

Plans of the proposed work are attached to this notice.

A Section 401 Water Quality Certification is required for this project. It is the applicant's responsibility to obtain the certification from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES: The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and it has been determined no properties listed on the Register are located within the project area. A copy of this public notice will be furnished to the OSHPO for their review. Comments concerning archeological sensitivity of the project area should be based upon collected data.

ENDANGERED/THREATENED SPECIES REVIEW: The project is located within the known or historic range of the following endangered and candidate species **Indiana Bat, pink mucket pearly mussel, and sheepsnose mussel**. The Huntington District has consulted the most recently available information and based on the location of the proposal, there should be effect on the listed species. This public notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended).

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW AND COMMENT: Any person who has an interest that may be adversely affected by the issuance of a permit may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing to the District Engineer on or before the expiration date of this notice and must clearly set forth the interest which may be adversely affected and the manner in which the interest may

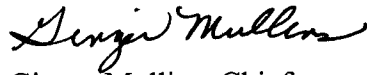
be adversely affected by the activity. This application will be reviewed in accordance with 33 CFR 320-331, the Regulatory Program of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and other pertinent laws, regulations, and executive orders. Our evaluation will also follow the guidelines published by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Section 404(b) (1) of the CWA. Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit that reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors that may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; of those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Written statements on these factors received in this office on or before the expiration date of this public notice will become a part of the record and will be considered in the final determination. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. For accuracy and completeness of the administrative record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

CLOSE OF COMMENT PERIOD: All comments pertaining to this Public Notice must reach this office on or before the close of the comment period listed on page one of this Public Notice. If no comments are received by that date, it will be considered that there are no objections. Comments and requests for additional information should be submitted to:

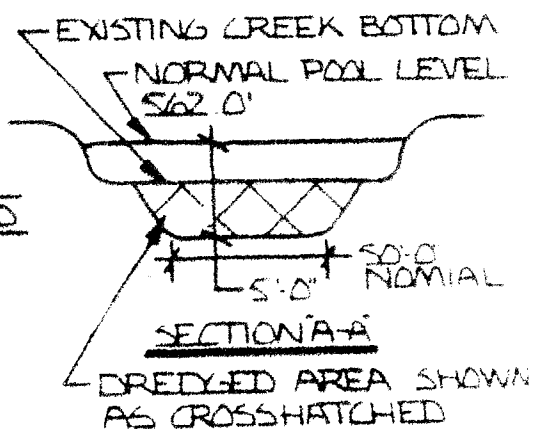
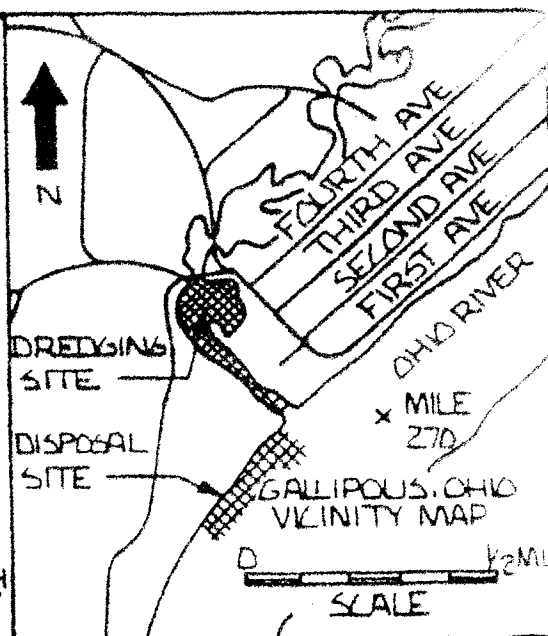
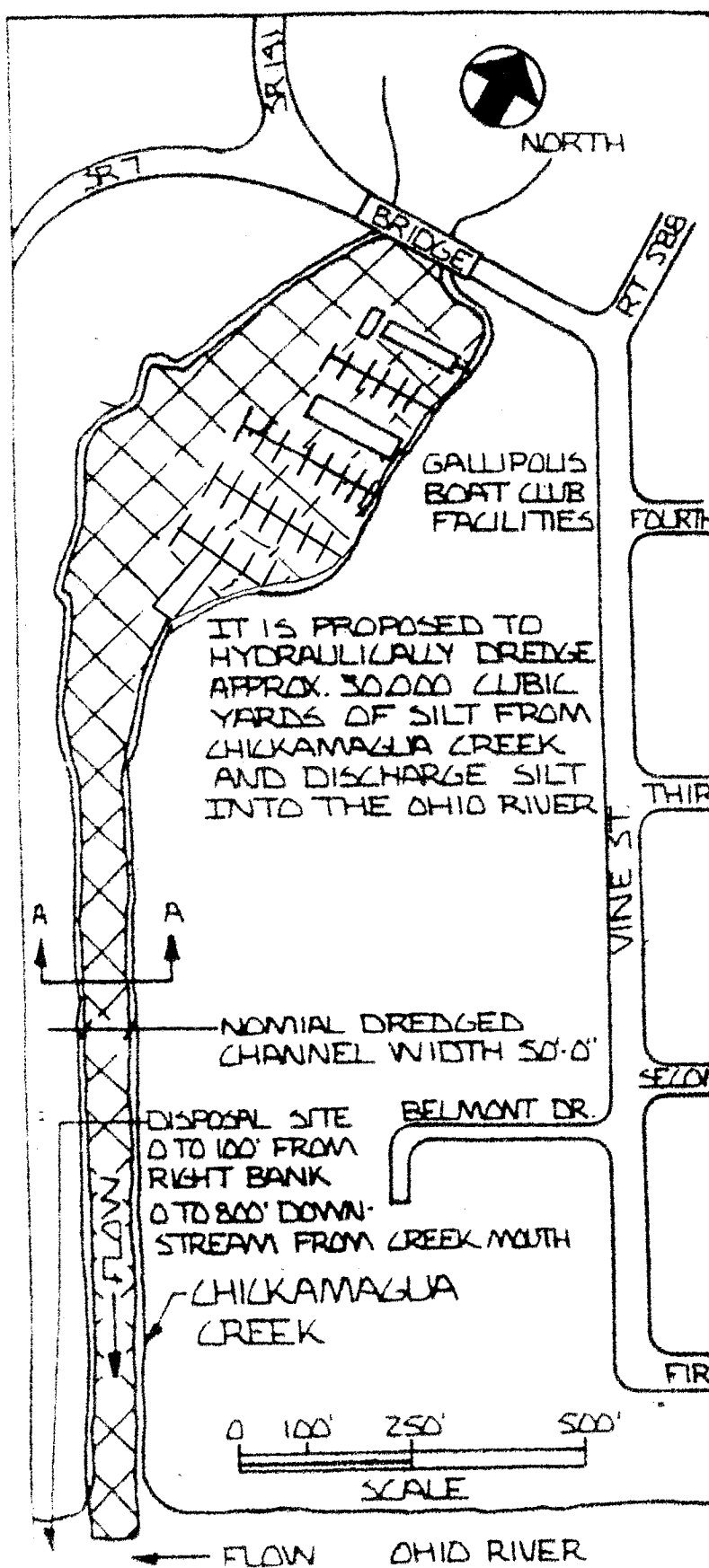
Kimberly Courts-Brown, Regulatory Project Manager
North Regulatory Section, CELRH-OR-FN
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Huntington District
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070.

Please note names and addresses of those who submit comments in response to this public notice may be made publicly available. Thank you for your interest in our nation's water resources. If you have any questions concerning this public notice, please contact Kimberly Courts-Brown of the North Regulatory Section at 304-399-5210.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ginger Mullins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ginger" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Mullins".

Ginger Mullins, Chief
Regulatory Branch

(O, WV)



PROPOSED DREDGING
OF THE
CHICKAMAGUA CREEK
CITY OF GALLIPOLIS
COUNTY OF GALLIA
STATE OF OHIO

APPLICATION BY THE
GALLIPOLIS BOAT CLUB, INC.
GALLIPOLIS, OHIO

SHEET 1 of 1 NOV. 1, 2005.